

# ONE MAN SPENDING \$77,000,000 FOR BIG RAILROAD

**A. J. Earling, President of St. Paul Road, the Mental Giant Who is Engineering the Mammoth Expenditure in Extending Line From South Dakota to Seattle.**

BY W. J. SHEPHERD.  
Special Correspondence to The Press  
MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 5.—Recently a modest item went the rounds to the effect that the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad had arranged to raise \$77,000,000. The answer to the question as to its use is that it will pay for the company's western extension. The answer to the more interesting query as to the mental giant charged with the expenditure of such a vast sum is that the man on the job is A. J. Earling, president of the company.

He is one of the big men in the railroad world, and is equipped by his ability and long experience to carry through just such an undertaking as the spending of \$77,000,000 without waste. He has the power of judgment to map out the general plans of the project and the organizing ability to have the work done in good order. His history is a simple record of conscientious devotion to duty that led him from one step after another to the top of ladder.

Earling was born in Wisconsin 59 years ago. At 18 years of age he entered the service of the C. M. & St. P. as a telegraph operator. In nine years he had risen to the position of division superintendent, having meantime served as dis-

patcher and assistant division superintendent. Four years later he was general superintendent, and two years after that general manager. He filled that position for nine years, and then, in 1899, was made president of the road, with the control under single management of the largest railway mileage in the world.

The success of his administration marked him as the man to pay out the \$77,000,000. He will spend it in the construction of an addition to the St. Paul system extending from Everts, S. D., to Seattle, a distance of 1776 miles. The steepest grades will be 2.2 or 116 feet to the mile. The grades of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific exceed 3 per cent in several places. The road will cost more than the Northern Pacific, and the raising of the huge fund to pay the cost does not raise a ripple in the country. Yet financiers turned the country upside down in the '70s to get money to build the Northern Pacific.

Work costing millions will be done to make the new line as level as possible. For instance, "Jack" Feeley is an old time surveyor and he helped Villard build the Northern Pacific road. One day out in the Bitter Root mountains in Montana, "Jack" stood on one ledge of rock and his partner stood on another ledge.



A. J. EARLING, PRESIDENT OF MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILROAD.

other. They were trying to find a level. His partner motioned "down." Down went the flag. "Down" came the motion. Further down went the flag. The motion came again. "Jack" laid the flag on the ledge. "Down" came the motion. With a sigh of resignation, "Jack" uncoiled a rope at his waist, fastened it to a rock and dropped himself 50 feet over the side of the ledge before the motions for "down" had ceased. Some of the other surveyors helped him to the ledge again, after "Jack" had fastened a white flag, as a mark, on the side of the cliff.

"In Northern Pacific days we'd agone 'round that," said "Jack," with a patient smile. "This time we'll blow the top off it or burrow through."

The cost of the ties alone on the new extension would keep shoes on every person in Kansas City for six months. And yet one tie costs the price of a fancy, square meal. The rails alone will cost the price of two battleships, yet when Uncle Sam spends that much we notice it. Each rail costs about \$12, the average American house rent for a month, according to sociologists. The spikes which some industrious tramp might pull from the ties along a mile stretch would keep him happy for a year, for they are worth \$240, a cent and a half apiece.

The laying of the rails, which alone costs \$275 per mile, is only like putting frosting on a cake. In addition to other considerations Earling has biblical inspiration for his work. The bible says: "Every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill shall be brought low and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough ways shall be made smooth."

## EXPENSE REVISION TOMORROW NIGHT

Mayor Moore is busy finishing the work of going over the estimates of the city officials, with a view of submitting his recommendations to the city council at a meeting of the committee of the whole tomorrow night. He has prepared no figures for publication yet, but will advise material reductions in the estimates.

The city council will take up the figures as submitted by the mayor and may conclude to adopt his recommendations as a whole or go into a detailed consideration and revision of the estimates, as has been the custom in the past. If this is done it may require two or three meetings before the work is finally completed and the tax levy agreed upon.

## MAYOR MOORE WANTS A DOLLAR

The financial committee of the republican county central committee has been fully prepared by Chairman Ham and is composed of 46 members, with Mayor C. Herbert Moore chairman, Sam Glasgow, Harry Rosenhaupt, T. D. Rockwell and others are on the committee. The mayor was furnished with the list this morning. He has not yet organized any plan for collection of the county campaign funds, but is at present trying to raise about \$3,000 in dollar subscriptions for the national committee, which has asked this state for \$20,000. Spokane's share of this is \$3,000. The money is to be used in carrying on the fight in debatable territory.

## EASTERN MARKETS

(Furnished by Walter J. Nicholls & Co.)  
NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—Erie is now earning more than its fixed charges called for. Fall movement of anthracite is late this year. Late demand for stocks in loan crowd. Bank statement shows a loss of over \$1,000,000 in cash. Canadian Pacific earnings fourth week in September increase \$83,000. The sum of the shipments of copper to Europe from all parts of the United States from January 1 to September 30, 226,955 tons against 127,776 for same months in 1907.

U. S. Bonds	Bid.	Asked.
U. S. 2s registered	103½	104
U. S. 2s coupon	104	104
U. S. 3s registered	100½	100½
U. S. 3s coupon	101	101½
U. S. 3s small bonds	100½	100½
U. S. 4s registered	121	121½
U. S. 4s coupon	122	122
Panama Canal 2s	102½	103½
Dist. Columbia 3-64s	110	110

Seventeen cases of destitution were relieved by the Associated Charities during September, according to the report of George H. Holloway, superintendent. In this relief the sum of \$76.75 was expended.

# LOSS BY FOREST FIRES IN WEST HAS REACHED BILLIONS THIS YEAR

ACCUMULATIVE LOSS IS INCALCULABLE AND FIRES ARE STILL BURNING IN TIMBERLANDS AND OVER WATERSHEDS.

Special Correspondence to The Press  
SACRAMENTO, Cal., Oct. 5.—Incomplete data compiled at the office of the state forester of California and covering the western states shows that the immediate

season of the year 1908 has been the most destructive in years in forest fires and the losses of September and October, the two driest months of the year, are still to be figured in.

The ultimate loss of this year's forest fires cannot be told in nine figures. The far reaching effects of forest fires are in reality the calamities of our children. They are three in

Besides this immediate loss, the thinning of the forests by the total destruction of seedlings and seeds is enormous. Large tracts of land that were once heavily forested are now overgrown with chaparral. The chaparral is not injured by forest fires, as it sprouts from the roots and each succeeding forest fire extends the area of chaparral. One of the world's wealthiest lumber merchants was asked some



loss by forest fires in the states of the Pacific slope and the Rocky mountain area during the months of July and August has reached the astounding total of over \$3,000,000,000. The accumulative loss is still to be figured and it will take

number: The destruction of the trees for commercial use; the denuding of the forest by the burning of young trees and the despoilation of watersheds, increasing floods, making irrigation more difficult, rendering the use of water for

time ago to what he attributed his fortune. He replied with brutal frankness, "I steal from generations yet unborn." The great forest fires could say the same thing if they could speak.

But the greatest loss from forest fires is to be found in the effect on the streams of the country.

The carpet of leaves is destroyed and the water comes down in spring freshets instead of being retained in the soil and being fed regularly to the streams as it percolates from the soil. Streams from watersheds forested will flow more regularly in and out of season and for a longer period during the year than streams from mountains which have been denuded through fires.

The United States reclamation service is now spending \$650,000 in the Orland irrigation project and other projects of like importance and nearly all this money is required to erect reservoirs on streams once regular in their flow, but now sporadic.

The immense quantities of silt washed down in the spring freshets has filled up the beds of streams once navigable until now they are either unfit for navigation or, if rendered so, it can only be done by the expenditure of a vast amount of money for the construction of jetties and piers.

This means more floods because of the necessarily wider distribution of the water, and it means that the farmers are being compelled more and more to depend on the transportation trust to carry their produce to market.

This explains why the "interests" are not concerned with the prevention of forest fires. While the forest fires are burning the monopolies in the lumber, power, water and transportation can actually count the money rolling into their coffers.

The people cannot look to the big monied powers for aid. They must work out their own salvation.



A SECTION OF THE CALAVERAS FOREST RESERVE, CALIFORNIA, TAKEN BY A STAFF ARTIST JUST AFTER THE DISASTROUS FIRE OF SEPTEMBER THAT BURNED SOME OF THE FAMOUS BIG TREES, SHOWING DENUDING OF THE FOREST.

three generations to tell the complete tale of destruction that walks in the wake of the flames that are now raging over the timber lands of the west.

Reports from California, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Wyoming and Nevada indicate that the dry

power a hard problem and finally filling the beds of navigable streams with silt so that farmers in their banks will be more firmly held in the grasp of the transportation trust.

The destruction of the trees themselves has been greater this year than for generations. Where the fire has not killed the trees outright it has eaten them away at their base so that they are either eaten away by insects and later broken off by the wind, thus thinning the stand. The greatest loss in trees thus attacked is that best and largest log at the body of the tree.

## THE BABY SHOW

Blake, Charles R. and Nan, 2730 Sinto avenue, October 1, a boy.  
Iversen, William L. and Jessie, Thirty-sixth avenue near Grand, October 3, a girl.

Crawford, James and Clara, Five Mile prairie, September 30, a boy.  
Green, George and Leola, 123 Second avenue, October 3, a boy.  
Geraghty, Thomas F. and Mary, E114 Indiana avenue, September 19, a boy.  
Ferte, John and Emily, 1019½ Riverside avenue, September 23, a boy.

## SUNDAY AT Y. M. C. A.

The speaker at the Sunday afternoon men's meeting at the Y. M. C. A. was Rev. C. Ross Baker, pastor of the Emanuel Baptist church. The Y. M. C. A. orchestra arranged a fine program for the meeting.

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## IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE ST. PAUL ROAD EXTENSION

- Terminals—Everts, S. D., and Seattle.
- Cost—\$77,000,000.
- Object of Engineers—Straightest line, least grade.
- Length of Extension—1776 miles.
- Length of Great Northern—1828 miles.
- Length of Northern Pacific—1964 miles.
- Steepest grade on St. Paul line—2.2 to 10 per cent, or 116 feet to the mile.
- Great Northern and Northern Pacific grades exceed 3 per cent in several places.
- Length of St. Paul tunnels, combined—3 7-10 miles. The Hoosack tunnel, New York, is four miles long.
- Length of Bridges, combined—5½ miles.
- Longest Bridge—Columbia river, 4000 feet.
- Work started April 15, 1906. Last spike to be driven about April 15, 1909, at St. Paul tunnel, near St. Joe, Idaho.

## SWEET SINGER OF SLUMS

LONDON, Oct. 5.—From singing on London's streets for pennies to singing in palaces of amusement for the income of a coal baron, is an achievement unusual even in fiction, but it is the story of Mirzka Gynt, aged 13.  
Mirzka Gynt is a Hebrew lad, scarcely able to speak English, who was rescued from the gutter four weeks ago by Alice Lloyd and her husband, Tom Macnaughton. The story of the discovery is told by the fair actress:

"We were walking through the



slums when I heard a voice that made me think of angels, singing my song, 'Why Do I Ask You If You Love Me.' We stopped, and there in the street, surrounded by a huge audience, was little Mirzka, pouring out his beautiful soprano voice and hushing the usually noisy crowd into rapt silent rapture.  
"I never heard such singing, and it did not take us long to learn all about the boy, who, as one of his auditors told us, 'was singin' to get money for his sick dad.'  
"Within the week I arranged for Mirzka to appear where his wonderful talent would reap a richer reward than the pennies tossed to him. He will go to the United States on a 40 week tour at \$200 a week."

## CITY PAYS OFF TODAY

This is the general payday at the city hall. The city officials holding elective positions provided for by the city charter get their checks on the first day of the month, but the ordinary employes in the various departments wait until the fifth. There are 900 employes on the city pay rolls and the preparation of that many checks means a few very busy days at the city comptroller's office the first of each month. The city disburses about \$55,000 in salaries each month.

Daughter—Shall we invite Dr. Biggie to our "at home"?  
Mother—I think we had better not. He's so absent minded he might charge it on the bill.

## FOUND NOT GUILTY

In the body of an account of the trial of Clarence Marsh of the Lundbreck Coal Co. for the alleged selling of short weight coal it was erroneously stated that Marsh was found guilty. As indicated in the head, he was found not guilty.

## DIGGING UP FOR HASKELL

GUTHRIE, Okla., Oct. 5.—About \$3,000 has been contributed by the people of Oklahoma to finance the fight of Governor Haskell against Hearst, President Roosevelt and other antagonists.

## CHEAP ISSUES MOVE

The market shows decided improvement, especially the cheaper issues. Snowshoe, in sympathy with Snowstorm's resumption of dividends, developed decided strength, selling at the high price of 8 cents and closing strong at 8 cents bid and 10 cents asked. This is the highest point that Snowshoe has touched for the past six months. Panhandle still shows buying orders amongst the brokers and sold at 5½ cents, which is the highest price this stock has reached for some time. Orders were apparent and the stock was in good

demand. It closed at 5½c bid and 6c asked. Snowstorm and Monitor also continued to show strength and closed at higher prices over last week's market.

The general tone of the market is good and the prospects are that between now and after election the market will gradually strengthen on all issues of merit. After this morning's call the brokers decided by resolution to charter a car for the purpose of attending in a body the blowing in of the Panhandle smelter, which will occur some time between October 15 and 20.

	Bid	Asked
Alameda	.03¼	.04
Alhambra	.12	.20
Ambergris	.14½	.16
Bell	.05	.10
Bullion	.04½	.06
Charles Dickens	.01	.02
Copper King	.01¼	.02¼
Evolution	.02	.03
Gertle	.02½	.03½
Happy Day	.02	.03
Hecla	3.00	4.00
Holden Gold & Copper	.10	..
Humming Bird	.05¼	.07
Hypothek	.01½	.01½
Idaho Giant	.03	..
Lucky Calumet	.03¼	.04¼
Mineral Farm	.01½	.02
Missoula Copper	.02¼	.04¼
Monitor	.47	.48½
Moonlight	.02½	.03¼
Nabob	.02½	.03
Oom Paul	.03¼	.04
Panhandle Smelter	.05¼	.06
Park Copper	.01	.02
Reindeer	.01	.02½
Rex	.04¼	.06
Snowshoe	.08	.10
Snowstorm	1.65	1.75
Sonora	.02½	.03½
Stewart	.68	.90
Tamarack & Chesapeak	.50	.75
Wonder	.02½	.03¼

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

Canadian Con. Smelters	68.00	..
Dominion Copper	.50	1.00
Granby Smelter	90.00	..
International Coal & Coke	.58	..
Rambler Cariboo	.15½	.18

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